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Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits: progress made, challenges and opportunities

Statement submitted by Public Services International, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2005/100.

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Statement

An effective, functioning public sector is an essential prerequisite for communities in their efforts to achieve economic and social development.

At present the reality is quite the opposite. In order to reverse the present vicious circle and move to a virtuous circle we need to:

(a) Provide adequate resources for effective quality public services, in which workers receive adequate pay and have decent working conditions;

(b) Make sure there is adequate training to enable workers to develop their skills in pursuit of achieving the MDGs;

(c) Ensure that workers have a voice in how best to achieve quality public services and MDGs;

(d) Recognize that Governments as employers should provide workers in the public sector with basic rights, including equity and gender equality.

PSI is ready to work with other NGOs in achieving the MDGs and in doing so working with the NGOs to achieve social justice.